



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaton
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood

Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. DeSantis
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston*
Aric W. Ledford*

Michael D. Specht
Jessica L. Parezo
Timothy A. Doyle*
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gabby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman

1651
\$
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Ruthenford
Eric D. Hayes
Michelle K. Holoubek
Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukerjee
Scott M. Woodhouse
Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie
*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

February 25, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8560
INTERNET ADDRESS:
RESMOND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1651

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/046,667; Filed: January 16, 2002
For: **Reagent for the Isolation of RNA**
Inventor: Domenica Simms
Our Ref: 0942.5220001/RWE/CJW

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, with courtesy copies of pages 3 and 4 of Form PTO-1449 filed August 7, 2002;
4. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 for \$1,022.00 to cover:
\$ 72.00 Claims in excess of twenty; and
\$ 950.00 Extension for response within third month; and
5. Return postcard.

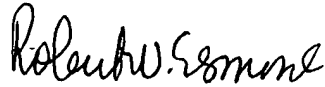
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 25, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Esmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent.

Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/dab
234279_1.DOC
Enclosures